

**HTS**  
***Health Tech***  
***Strategies, LLC***  
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June 30, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Docket No. 09-51 (National Broadband Plan)

Dear FCC Chairman and Commissioners:

Broadband internet access has catalyzed the development of incredible innovation and life-saving technologies across the country. At the forefront of this progress is the development of telemedicine, which provides quality health care and support to all citizens and care providers in the country that have access to its benefits. Unfortunately, millions of Americans are unable to take advantage of these inexpensive yet essential services, and Health Tech Strategies (HTS) would like to encourage the FCC to adopt a National Broadband Plan that provides broadband internet access to all levels, from individual patients to the providers of care who serve them.

Since 1993 HTS has provided the United States Congress itself with numerous healthcare information technology demonstrations to assist lawmakers in understanding the ever-changing innovations that the industry has experienced. We have an expert perspective of the successful trends developing in the field of telemedicine, and would like to see as many barriers to access removed as possible.

Simply put, telemedicine is a convenient, cost-saving method to expand access to quality health care for millions of Americans in low income and rural areas. Any strategy for a National Broadband Plan must therefore include 100 percent access for all, as these infrastructure and service costs would greatly diminish health care costs while keeping the United States far ahead of its economic competitors in the encouragement of private investment and innovation in technology services.

As a National Broadband Plan is developed, the FCC must also consider that the reliability of telemedicine networks is a critical component to its implementation. Service interruptions in some cases could prove fatal, and ultimately discourage patients from taking advantage of the benefits of quality health care services. Smart network management solutions must, therefore, be an integral part of any broadband strategy to give priority to life-saving medical imaging and emergency response transmissions. Indeed, broadband internet providers must have the ability to limit spam and other nuisances that can slow the delivery of essential medical data in a timely

fashion. The overall structure and development of network management can only work with proper input from public and private interests, and where necessary appropriate compromises should be made to prevent outages and ensure that reliability remains a primary objective.

HTS appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the development of the National Broadband Plan, and hopes that the FCC carefully considers the importance of telemedicine and managed networks to ensure its reliability.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neal Neuberger", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Neal Neuberger  
President